



and then winding them into large balls. Several gunny-sacks of rag balls were required to make an ordinary size carpet. The carpet was woven in yard widths, and then fitted into the rooms and sewn together. The carpet was laid on a matting of fresh straw to make it soft for walking and more wearable. Fortunate indeed were those who could afford a "carpet stretcher" to help tighten the carpet as it was laid. The few in Heber who did have them were generous in sharing with all the community.

Food had been the most important crop for the early settlers, and as they established gardens and cultivated fields they also introduced stock raising into the valley. Because of the heavy snows that fell during the winters, there were numerous mountain streams and springs and an abundance of meadow-lands. Some wondered if the summer season would be long enough to make stock raising a sound economic possibility, but others reasoned that they could never know until they tried it, so several people brought small flocks of sheep and cattle into the valley in 1860.

President Brigham Young called John M. Murdoch, a shepherd from Scotland and a convert to the Church, to supervise a herd of sheep for the Church. However, by the time he arrived in Utah the sheep had been sold, so Mr. Murdoch came to Heber in 1860 and pioneered co-operative herding. Those who had sheep banded them together in the co-op herd and Mr. Murdoch took charge of them on range-lands in the summer and on southern ranches in the winter. The venture proved very successful, and families who before had been unable to care for sheep now found it possible to own a herd. As people developed their own individual herds, however, the co-op idea soon dwindled. Some of the first sheep owners were the Jacob brothers, Lindsay brothers, Murdocks, Clydes, Cloworthys, Coleman, Austin, Smith, Jessop Thomas and the Fitzgeraulds.

The sheep industry grew substantially over the years, and at one time there were more milk fed lambs shipped out of Heber than from any other point in the United States.

The cattle industry grew also, supplying at first the needs of those in the valley and eventually providing beef and other meat products for shipment to Denver and many eastern cities. Some of the major owners of cattle included A. M. Murdoch, J. W. Clyde, John Carroll, William Averett and sons, John Witt and sons, the Carllies, Giles, Cummings and Abram Hatch and Sons.

DAIRYING

Dairying in the valley began with individuals who owned one or two cows and would sell their surplus milk or dairy products to neighbors. Later, creameries were established to collect the milk and distribute it on a large scale. Three such creameries have existed in Heber. One,